

PAPERS READ.

NOTES ON AUSTRALIAN COLEOPTERA, WITH
DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES.

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PART XII.

HYDROPHILIDÆ.

VOLVULUS PUNCTATUS, Blackb.

When I described this species (P.L.S.N.S.W. 1888, p. 838) I was unable to ascertain its habitat. I have since received it from the Northern Territory of S. Australia.

LAMELLICORNES.

ONTHOPHAGUS HOSTILIS, Har.

There is little doubt that this is identical with *O. Adelaide*, Hope. Hope's is the older name.

HETERONYX NASUTUS, Blackb.

I find that my description of this species (P.L.S.N.S.W. 1889, p. 147) was founded on an abraded example, and that in fresh specimens the upper surface is thinly clothed with shortish adpressed hairs in addition to the long erect ones. This discovery calls for an alteration in the tabulation, in which the following should be substituted for the last 13 lines of page 141 (*loc. cit.*).

- B. Size considerably exceeding 3 lines.
- C. Prothorax not closely punctulate.
- D. "Trilobed outline" of head very strongly defined, middle lobe (*i.e.*, labrum) very narrow and very prominent.
- E. Prothorax strongly narrowed in front *H. fervidus*, Blackb.
- EE. Prothorax but little narrowed in front... *H. nasutus*, Blackb.
- DD. "Trilobed outline" of head much less strongly defined *H. granulifer*, Blackb.
- CC. Prothorax closely punctulate..... *H. normalis*, Blackb.
- BB. Size less than 3 lines..... *H. brevicornis*, Blackb.

HETERONYX RHINOCEROS, sp.nov.

Sat elongatus; postice vix dilatatus; minus nitidus; pallide fusco-testaceus; minus distincte pubescens; clypeo crassissime ruguloso fere tuberculato, capite postice prothoraceque fortiter sparsim, elytris (his subtiliter coriaceis et longitudinaliter obsolete carinatis) leviter subtilius sat sparsim, pygidio (hoc pilis erectis sparsim vestito) fere ut elytra sed magis obsolete, punctulatis; labro clypeum fortiter sat late superanti; antennis 9-articulatis; unguiculis bifidis; coxis posticis quam metasternum vix brevioribus, quam segmentum ventrale secundum multo longioribus. [Long. $3\frac{1}{2}$, lat. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

The sculpture of the clypeus (so coarsely rugose as to resemble a system of closely placed tubercles) is in itself almost sufficient to distinguish this species from all its congeners. The outline of the head is also remarkable, the labrum being so prominent and the sides of the clypeus so strongly reflexed that the trilobed outline appears most exceptionally distinct, all the three lobes very well defined, the middle one slightly narrower than the lateral ones, but projecting more strongly. The prothorax is twice as wide as long, very little narrower in front than behind, the front margin moderately emarginate, the base not distinctly

lobed, the front angles almost right angles and scarcely at all produced, the hind angles rounded off, the sides strongly rounded. The lower two external teeth of the front tibiæ are very strong and sharp, the uppermost is very minute. The apical piece of the hind claws is a little longer than the produced apex of the basal piece, which is truncate at the apex.

In my tabulation of the group of *Heteronyx* (Section iii., Group VI., P.L.S.N.S.W. 1889, p. 426-8) in which this species finds a place it falls on p. 427, BB. (line 7) beside *bidentatus*, from which its totally different puncturation and the strongly developed trilobed outline of its clypeus will at once distinguish it.

W. Australia; sent to me by C. French, Esq.

HETERONYX MARCIDUS, sp.nov.

Sat elongatus; postice leviter dilatatus; minus nitidus; piceus, pedibus obscure rufescentibus, palpis antennisque pallidioribus; subtiliter sat sparsim pubescens; capite confertim rugulose nec crasse, prothorace subtiliter sat confertim, elytris subtiliter confertim subsquamose, pygidio sparsim subfortiter, punctulatis; labro clypeum vix superanti; antennis 8-articulatis; unguiculis appendiculatis; coxis posticis quam metasternum sat brevioribus quam segmentum ventrale secundum sat longioribus. [Long. 5, lat. $2\frac{1}{5}$ lines.

This species is exceptional in its group through the very slight prominence of the labrum, owing to which the trilobed appearance of the outline of the head is very feeble, the even curve of the outline (from the most favourable point of view) being disturbed only to the extent of appearing to bulge forward into manifestly greater convexity in the middle. The front tibiæ are strongly but not sharply tridentate externally. The prothorax is much wider than long (as 12 to 7), the base (which is bisinuate but scarcely lobed) much wider than the front (as 11 to 7), the sides gently arched, the front angles sharp but little prominent, the hind angles roundly obtuse (but, viewed from above, appearing right angles). The elytra bear scarcely a trace of striation. The apical piece of the hind claws is about equal in length to the basal piece.

This insect falls in my Section iii., Group V., of *Heteronyx* (vide P.L.S.N.S.W. 1889, p. 1219), which is tabulated in P.L.S.N.S.W. 1889, pp. 141-145. In that tabulation it falls beside *nigricans* on page 142, though the puncturation of its elytra is a little more close than in that species, though markedly less so than in *mulwalensis* and *punctipennis*. From *nigricans* it may be at once distinguished by the imperfect trilobed outline of its head, its clypeus forming an even surface with the rest of the head, &c. Its nearest ally is *consanguineus*, Blackb., (P.L.S.N.S.W. 1891, p. 490), from which it differs *inter alia* by the same characters mentioned above as distinguishing it from *nigricans*.

Victoria ; Swan Hill.

CORYNOPHYLLUS METALLICOLA, sp.nov. (♂)

Castaneus, capite prothoraceque rufescentibus, hoc (exempli typici) nigro-cincto et utrinque macula picea ornato ; subtus dense longe fulvo-hirsutus ; capite sat crebre (postice sparsim) punctulato, ante oculos transversim carinato, carina media breviter acute tuberculiformi ; prothorace quam longiori (et postice quam antice) duplo latiori, sparsim subtiliter punctulato, obsolete canaliculato, antice nec concavo nec tuberculato sed pone marginem anticum fovea parva punctiformi impresso ; elytris leviter geminatim punctulato striatis, interstitiis fere lævibus ; antennarum flabello sat lato, intus in medio subangulatum dilatato. [Long. 8, lat 4 $\frac{2}{3}$ lines.

The absolutely simple front margin of the prothorax, which is merely bisinuate without any trace of a tubercle will distinguish this species from all its previously described congeners.

N. S. Wales ; Broken Hill.

ANEURYSTYPUS COLLARIS, sp.nov. (♂)

Ferrugineus, antennis pallidioribus : subtus dense longe fulvo-hirsutus ; capite crebre rugulose (clypeo vix rugulose) punctulato, ante oculos obsolete carinato ; prothorace quam longiori (et postice quam antice) paullo plus quam dimidio latiori, subfortiter minus sparsim punctulato, late obsolete

canaliculato, antice nec concavo nec tuberculato; elytris obscure inæqualiter rugulosis, leviter geminatim striatis; antennarum flabello elongato-ovali, quam stipes sat longiori.

[Long. 6, lat. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

At once distinguished from its two previously described congeners by the front margin of the prothorax of the male not being raised into a tubercle in the middle, and the transverse carina of the head being extremely feeble. The flabellum of the antennæ in the male is intermediate in length between that of *A. calvus*, Blackb., and *A. Richardse*, Blackb., being about once and a third as long as the stipes. The puncturation of the prothorax is similarly intermediate, being evidently stronger than in *A. Richardse*, but scarcely so strong as in *A. calvus*. The elytra are very evidently more rugulose than in either of the previously described species. The prothorax has a very massive appearance owing to its anterior narrowing not commencing until quite close to the front.

W. Australia; Eyre's Sandy Patch.

BUPRESTIDÆ.

MELOBASIS VITIGERA, Thoms.

I believe this to be merely a variety of *M. cupreo-vittata*, Saund. I have intermediate forms in my collection.

MELOBASIS SUBCYANEA, sp. nov.

Sat convexa; minus nitida; obscure cyanea, elytris basin lateraque versus indeterminate cupreo-purpurascensibus, capite (nonnullis exemplis) viridescens; hoc leviter convexo, crebre subrugulose punctulato; prothorace quam longiori fere duplo (postice quam antice circiter tertia parte) latiori, crebre minus fortiter (latera versus magis crebre rugulose) punctulato, vix manifeste canaliculato, lateribus sat arcuatis; scutello vix punctulato; elytris ad apicem rotundatis, antice in disco utrinque gibbosis, obscure punctulato-striatis, interstitiis hic illic inæqualiter convexis, lateribus postice subtiliter denticulatis; corpore subtus crebre punctulato, prosterno antice declivi.

[Long. 5, lat. 2 lines.

The uniform dark blue colour of the under side and legs (which seems constant) and the distinct gibbosity (like a round swelling) on each elytron a little behind the base render this species easy to distinguish. It is a very solid-looking convex insect. The apical ventral segment in all the examples I have seen is deeply emarginate and bispinose.

S. Australia.

ELATERIDÆ.

LACON MANSUETUS, sp.nov.

Opacus; niger, epipleuris antice læte testaceis, antennis pedibusque (et nonnullis exemplis parte circa scutellum corporisque subtus parte mediana) rufis; obscure squamosus; capite prothoraceque crebre sat fortiter punctulatis; illo subdepresso; hoc obscure inæquali haud distincte canaliculato, longitudine latitudini æquali, basi quam margo anticus duplo latiori, lateribus subtiliter crenulatis leviter arcuatis postice vix sinuatis, angulis posticis subacutis retrorsum directis; elytris basi singulatim sat fortiter arcuatis, quam prothorax vix latioribus minus quam duplo longioribus, modice convexis, punctulato-striatis, sutura et interstitiis alternis elevatis, angulis humeralibus acute rectis; sulcis tarsorum in prosterno sat distincte (fere ut *L. brightensis*, Blackb.), in metasterno obsolete, impressis. [Long. $2\frac{3}{5}$, lat. 1 line.

A small ordinary-looking *Lacon*. In Dr. Candèze's tabulation of the genus [Mém. Liège (2) iv.] it would stand in company with *carinulatus*, Cand., and *sculptus*, Cand., from both of which its small size distinguishes it; it differs from the former also *inter alia* by its 5th elytral interstice not more costiform than the 3rd, and by the non-carinate hind angles of its prothorax. It should be noted that strictly speaking this insect would not fit into Dr. Candèze's tabulation at all, as he makes no group in which the tarsal furrows of the metathorax are "feebly defined," but I have no doubt Dr. Candèze would place it in the group devoid of metathoracic furrows; in this and several included in that group the furrows are just barely traceable.

This species falls into the small group of *Lacon* which I tabulated in P.L.S.N.S.W., 1891, pp. 508 and 509. In that tabulation it stands beside *L. lacrymosus*, Cand., from which it differs in its elytral costæ not being tuberculate behind. It is perhaps near *L. granulatus*, Macl., but *inter alia* the prothorax of that species is said to be "much longer than its width."

N. S. Wales; taken by Mr. Musson near Narrabri.

LACON SQUALESCENS, sp.nov.

Minus opacus; piceus, antennis pedibusque ferrugineis; squamis pallide fulvis sat dense vestitus; capite prothoraceque fortiter minus confertim punctulatis; illo depresso postice sulcato; hoc fortiter convexo subgibbo, haud canaliculato, quam longiori paullo latiori, postice quam antice plus quam dimidio latiori, latitudine majori ante medium posita, lateribus antice sat rotundatis postice fere parallelis crenulatis, angulis anticis fortiter productis posticis oblique truncatis; elytris basi fere rectis, quam prothorax vix latioribus plus quam duplo longioribus, modice convexis, punctulato-striatis, interstitiis transversim rugulosis inter se æqualibus, angulis humeralibus oblique truncatis; sulcis tarsorum in prosterno sat distincte impressis, in metasterno fere nullis. [Long. 5, lat. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

The very conspicuous pale fulvous scales clothing the upper surface, together with the shape of the prothorax, which is at its widest very little behind the front, render this a very distinct species. In Dr. Candèze's tabulation of the genus [Mém. Liège (2) iv.] it falls beside *L. humilis*, Er., a very different species.

N. Queensland; in the collection of C. French, Esq.

LACON YILGARNENSIS, sp.nov.

Opacus; fusco-niger, antennis pedibus coxis et abdominis lateribus ferrugineis; obscure squamosus; capite prothoraceque sat fortiter minus confertim punctulatis; illo vix convexo; hoc sat convexo, postice biimpresso, late leviter canaliculato, transverso, subparallelo, apicem summum versus angustato, basi quam margo anticus fere duplo latiori, lateribus subtiliter

crenulatis vix arcuatis postice haud sinuatis, angulis posticis rectis; elytris basi subrectis, quam prothorax haud latioribus plus quam duplo longioribus, sat depressis, vix striatis, seriatim punctulatis, interstitiis alternis elevatis (3° antice plano), angulis humeralibus subrectis; sulcis tarsorum in prosterno sat distincte, in metasterno obsolete, impressis.

[Long. $3\frac{1}{5}$, lat. $1\frac{2}{5}$ lines.

The elytra in places incline to a reddish tone, which is probably variable. In Dr. Candèze's tabulation [Mém. Liège (2) iv.] this species stands beside *L. variabilis*, Cand., and *parallelus*, Cand., from the former of which it differs *inter alia* by the strong carination of the 5th and 7th interstices of its elytra, and its more convex prothorax; from *L. parallelus*, Cand., it differs *inter alia* by its prothorax being transverse.

W. Australia; Yilgarn; sent to me by C. French, Esq.

GLYPHEUS ALPINUS, sp.nov.

Elongatus; parallelus; nitidus; sparsim villosus; piceus vel rufescens; prothorace convexo haud canaliculato, sparsim subtiliter punctulato, angulis posticis vix divaricatis acute carinatis; elytris leviter punctulato striatis.

[Long. $3\frac{1}{2}$, lat. 1 line (vix).

At once distinguished from the previously described species by its elongate, slender and parallel form with the tarsi longer, their joints 2-4 less dilated. The tarsal characters might perhaps justify its being regarded as the type of a new genus.

Victoria; on the higher mountains of the Alpine range.

GLYPHOCHILUS MONTANUS, sp.nov.

Sat angustus; sat parallelus; nitidus; pubescens; obscure rufo-ferrugineus, elytris fuscis; antennis palpis pedibusque testaceis; fronte convexa punctulata; prothorace latitudine (trans angulos posticos) longitudini æquali, hoc antice angustato, subtilius minus crebre (latera versus magis crebre) punctulato, angulis posticis breviter carinatis; elytris minus parallelis, punctulato-striatis, interstitiis leviter rugulosis.

[Long. $4-4\frac{1}{2}$, lat. $1\frac{1}{5}$ lines.

Like *G. leptus*, Cand., but differently coloured and not quite so narrow and parallel, with the puncturation of the prothorax finer. Compared with *G. occidentalis*, Cand., (which I have not seen), it appears to differ by its colour, its prothorax more narrowed anteriorly, &c.

N. S. Wales ; Blue Mountains.

MONOCREPIDIUS INGENS, sp.nov.

Latus ; sat nitidus ; pube tenui vestitus ; obscure rufus, prothorace in medio et ad latera et prosterni medio nigris, corpore subtus plus minusve infuscato, elytrorum basi utrinque coccinea ; antennarum articulo 4° quam 3^{us} fere duplo longiori ; prothorace quam longiori (maris vix, feminae sat evidenter) trans angulos posticos latiori, vix in medio breviter canaliculato, angulis posticis bicarinatis vix divaricatis ; elytris quam prothorax vix latioribus, ad apicem emarginatis (haud oblique) et biacutis, seriatim punctulatis (puncturis apicem versus gradatim subtilioribus), interstitiis antice latis planatis postice angustis subconvexis ; prosterno in medio canaliculato minus fortiter minus crebre nec rugulose punctulato, suturis prosternalibus arcuatis.

Maris antennis prothoracis basin leviter superantibus ; prothorace in medio subsparsim latera versus crebre punctulato. Feminae antennis prothoracis basin haud attingentibus ; prothorace toto subsparsim punctulato.

[Long. 11-13, lat. 3 $\frac{2}{3}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

Resembles *M. philoides*, Cand., in build, but distinguished *inter alia* by its colour and non-rugulose prosternum ; like *M. erubescens*, Cand., in colour, but distinguished *inter alia* by its different shape, arched prosternal sutures and prothorax less closely punctured and canaliculate only very feebly and for a short distance in the middle of its length ; from *M. Brucki*, Cand., it differs by the flanks of its prothorax not folded to form a gutter ; from all the other large Australian *Monocrepidii* the well-defined channel on the middle of its prosternum in front of the front coxæ will distinguish it. I cannot specify any good character

to distinguish this species from *M. punctostriatus*, Cand., except the presence of very well defined bright red spots at the base of the elytra which seem to be constant; M. Candèze particularises that *M. punctostriatus* has "no red spots at the base of the elytra."

Victoria; Alpine district.

MONOCREPIDIUS TERRE-REGINÆ, sp. nov.

Minus angustus, postice angustatus; subnitidus; pube fulva vestitus; ferrugineus, metasterno elytrisque infuscatis, scutello et elytrorum parte antica declivi rufescentibus, antennis (harum articulo 3^o quam 5^{us} parum, quam 4^{us} manifeste, breviori) palpis pedibusque testaceis; prothorace confertissime subaspere punctulato (puncturis certo adspectu strigas longitudinales formantibus), postice in medio canaliculato antice longitudinaliter obsolete carinato, angulis posticis bicarinatis, leviter divergentibus; elytris quam prothorax vix latioribus, ad apicem vix emarginatis, punctulato-striatis, puncturis in striis antice sat magnis postice fere obsoletis, interstitiis convexis subtiliter punctulatis; prosterno in medio sat fortiter vix crebre punctulato, latera versus æquali, suturis prosternalibus sat rectis; pronoti carina laterali haud in prosternum deflexa; tarsorum lamella sat lata.

Mas (?) latet.

Feminae (?) antennis prothoracis basin nullomodo attingentibus; prothorace quam trans angulos posticos latiori paullo longiori.

[Long. 8, lat. $2\frac{1}{10}$ lines.

Not very near any described species, I think; a robust, dark red insect with the external carina of the hind angles of the prothorax elongate and diverging (from the lateral margin) from the apex of the angle forward. The longitudinally strigose appearance of the pronotum is a strong character, as also is its appearance of being slightly carinate down the middle in the front half.

N. Queensland; presented to me by C. French, Esq.

MONOCREPIDIUS PICTICOLLIS, sp.nov.

Sat angustus; postice minus angustatus; sat nitidus; pube fulva vestitus; brunneo-ferrugineus, elytris basi sanguineis, prothorace antice utrinque macula nigra lævi subverruciformi ornato, antennis (harum articulo 3^o quam 2^{us} duplo longiori, quam 5^{us} manifeste quam 4^{us} fere duplo breviori) palpis pedibusque testaceis; prothorace inæqualiter punctulato, canali mediano subtili integro sat fortiter impresso, ad basim utrinque ante scutellum tumido, angulis posticis unicarinatis sat fortiter divergentibus; elytris quam prothorax paullo latioribus, ad apicem oblique emarginato-truncatis, punctulato-striatis, puncturis in striis sat parvis postice subobsoletis, interstitiis convexis subtiliter granulatis; prosterno in medio sat fortiter vix crebre punctulato, latera versus latissime deplanatis, suturis prosternalibus sat rectis; pronoti carina laterali antice sat fortiter (fere in prosternum) deflexa; tarsorum lamella sat lata. [Long. $8\frac{1}{2}$, lat. $2\frac{2}{5}$ lines.

The large slightly elevated pustule-like shining black blotch on either side of the middle line of the prothorax, a little in front of the middle, renders this species incapable of confusion with any of its congeners.

N. Queensland; presented to me by C. French, Esq.

MONOCREPIDIUS NARRABRENSIS, sp.nov.

Sat angustus, sat parallelus; minus nitidus; pube fulva vestitus; obscure brunneus, scutello et elytrorum parte antica declivi fulvis, antennis (harum articulo 3^o quam 5^{us} fere duplo breviori) palpis pedibusque testaceis; prothorace confertim rugulose punctulato, postice canaliculato, angulis posticis bicarinatis (carina interna perbrevis) sat divergentibus; elytris quam prothorax vix latioribus, ad apicem rotundatis, punctulato-striatis, interstitiis convexis subtiliter punctulatis; prosterno medio sat crebre vix fortiter punctulato; pronoti carina laterali antice in prosternum deflexa sed haud sulcum formanti; suturis prosternalibus sat rectis; tarsorum lamella perangusta.

Maris (?) antennis prothoracis basin articulo apicali superantibus; prothorace quam trans angulos posticos latiori vix longiori. [Long. 7, lat. 2 lines.

This species is isolated from most of its Australian congeners by the very narrow lamellæ of its tarsi. The structure of the lateral margins of its prothorax is also unusual. These margins instead of being continuously lateral (as they are in *M. Australasie*) are deflexed near the front and pass on to the prosternum, but without forming a prosternal gutter (as they do in *M. carinatus*, &c.); nor are the lateral portions of the prosternum (which are very closely punctulate-strigose) explanate, having only the very slight narrow flattening which is seen in *M. Australasie* and numerous other species. These characters, together with the extreme brevity of the inner carina of the hind angles of the prothorax, the decidedly convex elytral interstices, and the distinct (though not very conspicuous) reddish spot on either side of the scutellum will render the species easy to identify. To a casual glance it looks much like *M. Australasie*, though not in reality closely allied to it.

N. S. W.; taken by Mr. Musson, near Narrabri.

MONOCREPIDIUS MENTITOR, sp.nov.

Minus latus; subnitidus; pube grisea sat dense vestitus; obscure brunneus, antennis (harum articulo 3° quam 4^{us} vix breviori) palpis pedibusque testaceis, elytris juxta scutellum utrinque macula rufa plus minusve distincte ornatis; prothorace confertissime aspere punctulato, longitudine latitudini (trans angulos posticos) æquali, canalicula mediana postice leviter impressa, angulis posticis bicarinatis (carinis antrorsum fortiter divergentibus) divaricatis; elytris quam prothorax vix latioribus, ad apicem emarginatis (leviter oblique), punctulato-striatis, interstitiis sat convexis subaspere (præsertim feminæ) crebre punctulatis; prosterno in medio sat fortiter sat crebre nec rugulose punctulato latera versus deplanato, suturis prosternalibus sat rectis; tarsorum lamella sat lata.

Maris antennis prothoracis basin articulis 2 superantibus.

Feminae antennis prothoracis basin vix attingentibus.

[Long. $6-8\frac{2}{3}$, lat. $1\frac{3}{5}-2\frac{1}{5}$ lines.

This species may be at once distinguished from *M. Australasica*, Boisd., *inter alia* by the third joint of the antennæ being very much longer, and the interstices of the elytral striæ distinctly convex; from *M. tabidus*, Er., (as described by its author), by the base of its elytra being red; from *M. tabidus* (as described by M. Candèze) by the front margin of its clypeus being quite strongly rounded and the mesosternum not showing the characters described; from *M. Eveillardi* (at least in the male) by the 3rd joint of the antennæ being scarcely shorter than the 4th and not at all shorter than the 5th, and by the excessively close asperate puncturation of the prothorax (this character also distinguishing it from *M. Australasica*); from *erubescens*, Cand., by the absence of a well-defined prothoracic channel; it is superfluous to point out the differences from the other species having the elytra red at the base.

Victoria; Alpine district.

MONOCREPIDIUS OLLIFFI, sp. nov.

Sat. angustus; sat parallelus; minus nitidus; pube fulva vestitus; brunneo-piceus, scutello rufescenti, juxta hoc linea brevi utrinque coccinea, antennis (harum articulo 3^o quam 2^{us} plus quam duplo longiori, quam 5^{us} vix breviori) palpibusque testaceis; prothorace confertim minus fortiter punctulato postice canaliculato, angulis posticis bicarinatis vix divergentibus, carinis antrorsum subparallelis; elytris quam prothorax vix latioribus, ad apicem oblique leviter truncatis vel emarginatis, punctulato-striatis, interstitiis vix convexis confertim punctulatis; prosterno medio sat crebre vix fortiter punctulato, hoc ad latera deplanato suturis prosternalibus rectis; tarsorum lamella sat lata.

Maris antennis prothoracis basin leviter superanti; prothorace quam trans angulos posticos latiori longiori.

Feminae antennis prothoracis basin haud attingenti ; prothorace quam longiori nonnihil latiori. [Long. $6\frac{1}{2}$ -7, lat. $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 lines.

The well-defined bright red line on either side of the scutellum if constant (I have seen only two examples, so cannot feel confident on the point) renders this species easily recognisable. If it be liable to pass into a red spot like that of *M. Australasice* the species may be distinguished from the others having a red elytral basal spot by the wide flattened or slightly concave lateral margin of the flanks of the prothorax, which however is very different from the gutter formed in some species (e.g. *M. carinatus*, Caud.) by the folding under of the margins of the pronotum ; this structure which may perhaps be best described as the lateral margins of the prosternum being explanate is scarcely traceable in *M. Australasice*, Boisd., but in the present insect is very strongly defined. The lateral portions of the prosternum are much more finely and closely punctulate than the middle piece. If the red mark at the base of the elytra is liable to be altogether wanting this species may be distinguished by the above-mentioned prosternal structure in combination with the elongate 3rd joint of the antennæ, the reddish scutellum, and the hind angles of the prothorax scarcely divergent, from all its congeners having unicolorous elytra and wide tarsal lamellæ.

N. S. Wales ; Blue Mountains.

ÆOLUS QUEENSLANDICUS, sp. nov.

Minus nitidus ; pubescens ; piceus, prothoracis angulis posticis elytrorum vitta lata antennis coxis pedibusque ferrugineis ; capite convexo sat crebre punctulato ; prothorace quam longiori parum latiori, confertim subtilius punctulato, haud canaliculato, angulis posticis brevibus apice penicillatis haud carinatis, carinis lateralibus antice in prosternum deflexis ; elytris punctulato-striatis, interstitiis crebre minus subtiliter punctulatis. [Long. 2, lat. $\frac{3}{8}$ line.

This little species must be referred to *Æolus*, I think, on account of the 4th joint of its tarsi being dilated and produced beneath the 5th joint, but without forming a distinct lamella, while the

front margin of its clypeus is distinctly carinate and very evidently (almost widely) reflexed; the structure of the hind angles of its prothorax places it in Dr. Candèze's "third section" of the genus, of which no Australian species has hitherto been described. The flanks of the prosternum are punctured much more strongly than the median part.

N. Queensland; sent to me by Mr. French.

ELATER.

The little species described below has not altogether the facies of this genus, but its structure seems to place it here. The front of the clypeus presents a clearly defined continuous raised border; the tarsi are quite simple and filiform; the prosternal sutures are straight and in front excavated; the mesosternum is declivous; the hind coxæ are those of a typical *Elater* except that the external hind angle of their dilated portion is very feeble. In the last of these characters this species resembles *E. perplexus*, Cand.

ELATER WENTWORTHENSIS, sp.nov.

Pallide brunneo-testaceus, capite prothoraceque obscurioribus metasterno abdomineque rufescentibus latera versus plus minusve infuscatis, elytris mox pone medium macula obscura fusca ornatis; pube pallide fulva vestitus; capite sat fortiter subcrebre, prothorace subtiliter minus crebre, punctulatis; hoc subparallelo antice parum angustato, haud canaliculato, angulis posticis vix divergentibus carina sat elongata mox intra marginem lateralem instructis; elytris striatis, interstitiis subplanis leviter sat crebre vix subtiliter punctulatis.

♂ prothorace quam latiori paullo longiori.

♀ prothorace quam longiori paullo latiori. [Long. $1\frac{1}{5}$ - $2\frac{1}{5}$, lat. $\frac{3}{5}$ line.

The minute size and general appearance of this insect—its pale brownish testaceous colour, with the head and prothorax reddish, and a distinct (but not very strongly defined) fuscous spot on each of the elytra immediately behind the middle—render it very distinct from any previously described Australian *Elaterid*.

N. S. Wales; near Wentworth Falls.

MALACODERMIDÆ.

MACROHELODES, gen.nov.

Helodi affinis sed major, integumentis magis solidis, corpore supra glabro, elytrorum epipleuris sat latis integris, palporum labialium articulo apicali ad præcedentis apicem adfixo.

The type of this genus is an insect which I described as *Helodes princeps* (P.L.S.N.S.W. 1891, p. 517), remarking on its being only doubtfully referable to *Helodes*, but as I had only a single example I thought it better not to propose a new generic name. Since I described it I have had the good fortune to capture six specimens evidently congeneric with it, and representing four distinct species. These insects occur in very marshy places on the higher mountains and are found clinging to the stems of rushes, &c., generally implanted in water. The readiness of the specimens to drop and the necessity usually to go into the water after them render them difficult to secure. They are quite distinct from *Helodes*, though undoubtedly allied to it. I have failed to discover sexual differences among the specimens before me.

MACROHELODES LUCIDUS, sp.nov.

Late ovalis; convexus; nitidissimus; supra glaber; subtus sat dense breviter sericeo-pubescentis; supra niger, elytrorum sutura anguste rufescenti; subtus rufo-piceis, antennarum basi pedibusque concoloribus; capite subtiliter sat crebre, prothorace subtiliter sparsim, punctulatis; elytris fere lævibus; antennarum articulis 2° 3°que conjunctis quam 4^{us} vix brevioribus; cetera ut *M. princeps*, Blackb.

[Long. 4, lat. 2½ lines.

N. S. Wales; Blue Mountains.

MACROHELODES CRASSUS, sp.nov.

Late ovalis; convexus; nitidus; supra glaber; subtus sat dense breviter sericeo-pubescentis; niger, prothorace (hoc indeterminate nigro-plagiato) elytris (horum sutura, et maculis ternis discoidalibus longitudinaliter positis, nigris) tibiis tarsorum articulis 1° 5°que, antennarumque articulis 2° 3°

que, rufis; capite (hoc inter oculos biimpresso) confertim minus subtiliter, prothorace sparsius subtiliter, elytris crasse sat crebre, punctulatis; antennarum articulis 2° 3° que conjunctis quam 4^{us} vix brevioribus. [Long. 3 $\frac{3}{5}$, lat. 2 lines.

N. S. Wales; Blue Mountains.

MACROHELODES INTRICATUS, sp.nov.

Ovalis, fere ab elytrorum basi retrorsum angustatus; convexus; nitidus, supra glaber; subtus sat dense breviter sericeo-pubescentis; supra pallide inteus, capite prothoraceque (hoc ad latera albo-luteo-marginato et, nonnullis exemplis, indeterminate fusco-maculato) rubris, elytris antice et (ante medium) ad latera fere albidis et ubique plus minus crebre nigro-irroratis; scutello fusco; subtus obscure luteo-brunneus, pedibus (tarsorum articulis 3° 4° que nigris) antennisque (harum articulis 4-7 ad apicem, 8-11 totis, nigris) rufis; cetera ut *M. crassus*. [Long. 4, lat. 2 lines.

In spite of very great differences in colour and markings and a considerable difference in shape (this species being more narrowed hindward), I think it possible that this may be a variety of the preceding, from which it scarcely differs in respect of the puncturation of its several parts.

N. S. Wales; Blue Mountains.

MACROHELODES GRAVIS, sp.nov.

Latissimus, fere ab elytrorum basi retrorsum angustatus; minus convexus; nitidus; supra glaber; subtus sat dense breviter sericeo-pubescentis; totus rufus; capite (hoc inter oculos profunde biimpresso) subtiliter vix crebre, prothorace sparsim subtiliter (fere obsolete), elytris (his obsolete 3-costatis) fortiter sat crebre, punctulatis; antennarum articulis 2° 3° que conjunctis quam 4^{us} manifeste brevioribus.

[Long. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$, lat. 2 $\frac{3}{5}$ lines.

The elytra in this species are evidently less coarsely punctured than those of the preceding two, and the head is considerably more finely punctured.

N. S. Wales; Blue Mountains.

HELODES (CYPHON) FENESTRATUS, sp.nov.

Ovalis; sat convexus; pubescens; fusco-piceus, antennarum basi tibiis tarsisque rufescentibus, elytris fascia communi arcuata ad latera abbreviata mox ante medium posita fulva ornatis; capite prothoraceque crebre subtiliter punctulatis; hoc perbrevis valde transversus, angulis posticis obtusis; elytris subfortiter minus crebre punctulatis, puncturis apicem versus gradatim subtilioribus; antennarum articulis 2^o 3^oque conjunctis (hoc quam ille multo minore) sat brevioribus.

[Long. $1\frac{1}{2}$, lat. $\frac{3}{5}$ line.

Resembles *H. pictus*, Blackb., in shape, but is evidently and uniformly smaller, with the elytra a little more finely punctulate. The uniform fuscous colour of the upper surface interrupted only by a fulvous arched fascia crossing the elytra immediately in front of the middle and not nearly reaching the lateral margins renders this a very distinct species. The antennæ also are exceptionally dark. I hesitate to refer to this species an example (also from N. S. Wales) in which the fulvous mark is wanting and the puncturation seems a trifle coarser, but it is quite possible it may be a variety. The examination of more specimens would be necessary to determine it.

N. S. Wales; Blue Mountains.

PTINIDÆ.

DIPLOCOTES NIGER, v. de Poll. (Notes, Leyd. Mus. 1886, p. 238).

There seems to be little doubt that this is identical with *Diphobia familiaris*, Olliff, published in the P.L.S.N.S.W., same year (1886). I am uncertain which name takes the precedence.

TENEBRIONIDÆ.

LICINOMA PALLIPES, Blackb.

In describing this species (P.L.S.N.S.W., 1891, p. 542) I accidentally omitted to mention its habitat, which is the Victorian Alps.